

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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NEAL

In re Patent Application of )  
Gilbert BLANCHARD et al. )  
Application No.: Unassigned ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
(Corresponds to PCT/FR99/01378) )  
International Filing Date: 10 June 1999 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
For: METHOD FOR TREATING BY )  
COMBUSTION CARBON- )  
CONTAINING PARTICLES IN AN )  
INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE )  
EXHAUST CIRCUIT )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) Process for the combustion treatment of carbonaceous particles collected on a filter situated in an exhaust circuit of an internal combustion engine, [characterized in that the combustion of the] comprising contacting said particles [is brought about by contacting them] with a gas mixture comprising at least nitrogen dioxide generated within the exhaust circuit of [the] said engine, [the] and thus combusting same, said